

## Amusements To-Night.

BOUQUET OF THE HOUSE—Admission.	10c.
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## Index to Advertisements.

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## Business Notices.

HAYES REDUCED—LIRLAND'S STURTEVANT  
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TRIBUTE TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.  
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more "to satisfy his cravings for musical society in the Austrian capital than in Spain."

Logic so cogent as this was unanswerable. Mr. Kelley, being an accomplished fiddler, flute-player and pianist, could not consent to serve his country at Madrid. He must move with serene and constant poise in a musical atmosphere. The Italian school of music might have satisfied a less exacting critic, but Mr. Kelley as a Wagnerian fiddler would not have felt at home there. The light, ephemeral music of the opera and the sentimental racket of the street organs would have driven him wild in Rome. In Vienna he would find congenial musical people, with whom he could converse as unaffected as with the first families of Richmond. The cravings of his sensitive nature would be satisfied. In the intervals of official business he could turn to his flute with Dick Swiveller's industry and ardor, and have no fears of calling in the Vienna police to suppress what in Rome might have been considered an incitement to riot. And then, the chess congresses! How much the Richmond statesman would find in these to stimulate his intellectual energies and to minister to intellectual relaxation! Even if Mr. Kelley had been able to endure the Italian school of music, he could have had at Rome no chess worthy of the name.

The bosom friend has rendered a public service, not only in disclosing the secret history of this mysterious appointment, but also in interpreting Secretary Bayard's general policy in filling vacancies in the diplomatic service. The first intimation of his purpose was received when it was announced that one of the South American missions had been conferred upon an enthusiastic bug-hunter who was anxious to make a tropical collection. Mr. Kelley is now sent to Vienna, where he can fiddle to his heart's content in a musical atmosphere and attend chess congresses. Apparently diplomatic appointments are made for the sake of gratifying the caprices of Mr. Bayard's personal friends. On this principle some obscure Confederate veteran, who has never been able to cross the ocean and fancy that the climate at Rome will benefit his wife's health, may be sent to Italy. Nor can we forget that Mr. Tweed, who was always reputed to be a Democratic statesman, played "seven-up" all the way across seas during his last voyage from Spain, sometimes turning five jacks out of a single pack. One of the veteran card-players of Tammany Hall, who happens to enjoy Mr. Bayard's friendship, may be sent to Madrid to learn a few new gambling games, precisely as Mr. Kelley goes to Vienna for chess practice.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH'S ROUTINE.  
The Board of Health complains of being falsely arraigned before the public as bound in routine and lacking in the energy and public spirit that have given birth to volunteer sanitary organizations in the city. But do the facts prove the accusation false? Take as an instance the result of a recent conference between the Board and a representative committee of that vigorous "upstart," the Tenth Ward Sanitary Aid Society. The meeting took place on Tuesday after much correspondence between the official and the unofficial body that had failed to establish the harmonious co-operation so much desired by the young society on a basis of energetic work for the common good. The committee called upon the Board after due notice on the professed errand of learning just how to direct its work so as to aid the Board most effectively in its summer campaign against nuisances in the Tenth Ward.

It found the Commissioners assembled for their regular weekly session. Uppermost among matters that were scheduled for discussion at that session was a report by Chief Inspector Bullard on the illegal keeping of foals in the Hebrew quarter of the Tenth Ward, which he characterized as a serious nuisance that had defied the power of the department for years, and was now as bad as ever. Tables of complaints and "orders" issued within the last year covering more than thirty houses in the district that harbored the nuisance accompanied the report; they were intended to demonstrate the practical helplessness of the department without a change of method. Mr. Bullard suggested that as religious prejudices and ceremonial lay at the root of the opposition to a proper enforcement of the law, local foal markets should be established to meet the needs of the population and that increased powers should then be given to the sanitary police to deal with persistent offenders. His suggestions were indorsed and strongly commended by the Sanitary Superintendent, whose opportunities for judging correctly of the urgency of Inspector Bullard's claim have been unexcelled. The report had been printed, commented upon in the newspapers by the Commissioners themselves and been before the Board, in one shape or another, since last January, until it lay ready now for final action.

With this knowledge, what did the Board of Health reply to the anxious query of the volunteer committee, how it could help the department to rid the Tenth Ward of nuisances? That the only way was to help get through the Legislature a bill, now pending, to increase the patronage of the Board. Among the teeming tens of thousands of the East Side it saw no other field for the young energy of the society, and sent the committee away with that answer.

The door had scarcely closed behind the visitors before the Board took up Inspector Bullard's report. As the result of an hour's grave discussion, it rejected the expert opinions submitted and decided to leave the matter of sanitary reform to the intelligent action of the Tenth Ward Hebrews and to persevere in the routine of the old and bad methods.

There were intelligent and influential Hebrews on the committee that had just waited upon the Board, and there is no lack of them in the Tenth Ward society. Yet with this matter right before them, it did not occur to the Commissioners to point it out to them as a field of usefulness. In the hot zeal of the volunteer sanitarians the Board had found fault with "impracticable ideas." The Committee had come to ask for practical guidance. Here was an opportunity for practical work. Yet it was allowed to pass. In the routine of matters official it had not "come up" yet before the Board. Its turn came half an hour later, when the chance to speed an important sanitary reform had passed.

Do the facts acquit the Board of the charge of being bound, hand and foot, in the fatal meshes of routine?

COMMERCE-DESTROYERS.  
In the event of war it is certain that Russia would launch swift cruisers upon the British mercantile marine. She had, a year ago, twenty vessels built or altered to fit them for this service. Of these, eight are volunteer merchant steamers, bought by patriotic citizens of Moscow, and the remainder are Government vessels, four of them having been built in this country. All of these cruisers carry six-inch guns, and can make fifteen knots an hour; and the majority can carry coal enough to steam from twenty to twenty-eight days at full speed. This last is an important consideration, for it goes far to answer the question how the Russian cruisers are to carry coal. But they are not without other resources. Many of the British coal stations are undefended, and the

sea is covered with laden oilers. This difficulty therefore would probably not interfere seriously with the work of the Russian commerce-destroyers. But they would have to move very swiftly to keep away from the British cruisers, for though some English pressmen have recently declared in the press that England has no swift cruisers, the truth is that there are in her navy eleven finished and two unfinished vessels capable of making from fifteen to seven and a half knots an hour, and in addition to them must be reckoned the fast passenger steamers recently chartered, and which undoubtedly have the heels of anything afloat that carries the Russian flag. England can certainly muster as many fast cruisers as Russia can procure, in fact, but it is clear that she ought to have twice or three times as many in order to be able to extend effective protection to her widely scattered commerce.

England can in another way protect her commerce afloat, namely by transferring it to neutral bottoms. Such a course would necessarily deprive her of her enormous carrying trade, now sixty per cent of the world's ocean transportation. But even this possibility is dependent upon a doubtful factor, which is Russia's adhesion to the Declaration of Paris. Under that international agreement a neutral flag covers enemy's goods. But if Russia should withdraw from that agreement, the transfer of the carrying trade to neutral bottoms would no longer be practicable. Whether in any case the United States could profit by such a transfer is open to serious question. Dr. Woolsey in the latest edition of his treatise on International Law holds that not having signed the Declaration of Paris, our Government could not enjoy the privileges accorded to neutrals under it. Be that as it may, however, it seems probable that at the first outbreak of war British commerce afloat would sustain very serious injury, and that despite the protection subsequently afforded by swift cruisers, the war risks might soon rise so high as to force the carrying trade into neutral hands, provided the transfer could protect it. English opinion at present is hostile to the transfer of this trade to neutral flag.

There is not much probability that Russia would venture to face England's warships, however. It is much more likely that she would promptly put her ironclads under the guns of Cronstadt and Sebastopol, and that they would stay there until the war was over. All the Russian war done at sea would be by cruisers, and it is possible that if these were destroyed at once she could not replace them, since the Alabama Claims have convinced all neutral Powers that it is absolutely necessary to prevent the furnishing of munitions of war to belligerents, and that pleas of inability to prevent the fitting out and departure of vessels will not be allowed in any international tribunal hereafter.

GOLD AND SILVER.  
Mr. Burchard's annual report of the production of gold and silver in one respect more praiseworthy than other excellent reports which have preceded it. The mining value of silver is clearly distinguished from the commercial value, so that the meaning of the report cannot be misunderstood; it means that gold of the market value of \$30,800,000 and silver of the market value of \$42,000,000 were produced from the mines of this country during the year 1884. The annual statement of Mr. Valentine, of Wells, Fargo & Co., which appears much earlier and is regarded with great confidence in commercial circles placed the production of the Missouri River at \$25,183,567 gold, \$43,529,252 silver, \$6,834,091 lead and \$6,088,225 copper. Hence the discrepancy between the Mint statements and those of Mr. Valentine, which had for some years been diminishing, seems to grow wider this year; instead of a difference of \$2,200,000 as to the yield of 1883 there is a difference of about \$4,200,000—allowing \$800,000 for the yield of the Missouri River—as to the yield of 1884.

It has been stated of late that the fanatical advocates of silver coinage were preparing a violent attack upon Mr. Burchard, and hoped to persuade the President to turn him out, not as a "rascal," for no one has questioned his fidelity, but on the ground that he has become a "gold bug." He does not distort and falsify his reports in such a manner as to suit some of the silver-manics, and they charge that he makes the yield of gold too small, and the yield of silver too large, in order to please the money sharks of Wall Street. The absurdity of this charge may be judged from the fact that Mr. Burchard's latest report, like all others for years, makes the yield of gold larger than it appears to be from the returns of Mr. Valentine, which are in Wall Street commonly accepted as likely to be the more correct of the two, and makes the yield of silver smaller than the report of Mr. Valentine. There is no reason to suppose that the discrepancy is due to bad faith on either side. Apparently it springs wholly or mainly from a difference in the estimate of the comparative value of gold and silver obtained from ores which contain both. Mr. Valentine's methods of computation on that point are in some respects preferable to any other yet employed, but he may nevertheless be less accurate in respect to the proportion of silver taken from other ores than in respect to the yield of the Comstock lode.

According to any report or computation, there appears to be a great shrinkage in the amount of gold produced within the past six years. The Mint reports made the yield over \$50,000,000 for the fiscal year 1878, and now make it only about \$30,000,000; Mr. Valentine made the yield of gold \$44,880,000 in the calendar year 1877, and now makes it only about \$25,800,000 for the calendar year 1884. On the other hand, Mr. Burchard's report makes the yield of silver about \$2,400,000 larger than that of last year. If these facts are inconvenient to the advocates of silver coinage, it is nevertheless for the interest of the whole people that they should be clearly and authoritatively stated. The truth that the supply of gold is falling short of the world's requirements is much too important to be hidden because it does not fit the theories of some people.

Mr. Cleveland has been "going slow." But he intends to "go slower." He is reported as saying: "When I assumed the duties of this office I felt that I was going to make changes, believing that if any mistakes were made they would naturally result from haste and inconsiderate action. From certain recent occurrences I am more than ever of the opinion that my original determination was right. In the future I intend to go even slower than ever." What Mr. Cleveland doesn't seem to realize, is that it makes little difference whether he goes fast or slow, since, with his lack of knowledge of public men, he is obliged to depend entirely upon the judgment of others. If those in whom he places reliance are interested in deceiving him, it will be done although he makes but one appointment a month.

Some of our esteemed contemporaries are advising the nomination of Mr. Dana, of the Sun, for Governor. It would be interesting to see how a genuine, old-fashioned Jeffersonian Democrat would run. If he got elected what a shaking up he would give the Mugwumps!

According to the New-Orleans Times-Democrat the whole country is crying to have the Exposition kept in that city and re-opened next autumn. It wants the President to issue an executive order to retain the National exhibits in their present shape for another year. Such a cool proposition indicates a low temperature in the Crescent City. The act of Congress terminates the Exposition on June 1, and if the President can override that law by an executive order it will be news indeed. Perhaps the milk in this cocoanut is the desire for an excuse to appeal to Congress for another final appropriation. One million seven hundred thousand dollars is about as much as the people of this country care to invest in the show business in New-Orleans.